MARVEL
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MARVEL KNIGHTS
SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL

PREVIOUSLY IN MARVEL KNIGHTS SPIDER-MAN

"WILD BLUE YONDER"

PART III OF VI

Peter Parker's life has been turned upside down. His house has been leveled by a super-villain so he's moved his family into a new pad—Avengers Tower... His summer-school teaching job fell through so he's finagled a summer job at the *Daily Bugle*... And if that weren't enough: the Owl has placed a bounty on the head of Spidey's head that Crusher Creel—aka The Absorbing Man—and his mysterious female consultant, is looking to collect.

And how about the *Bugle*'s new star reporter! Ethan Edwards is his name, and he's the ace in J. Jonah Jameson's deck and the bane of Peter's existence. When Jonah gets the bright idea to pair up Ethan and Peter to cover his number one personal fixation—Spider-Man—it's only a matter of time before they fall into trouble.

Happening upon the scene of one of Creel's hits, Peter ditches Ethan – and his civilian clothes—and rushes to the rescue.

He's barely traded blows with Creel, however, before help comes: A mysterious being swoops down from the sky, punches the Absorbing Man to another state—*literally*—and then flies off without a word, leaving a puzzled Spidey behind.

And when Spidey goes to recover his clothes, he discovers something missing:

His wallet.

WRITER	PENCILERS	INKERS	COLORISTS	LETTERER
REGINALD HUDLIN	BILLY TAN & MARK BUCKINGHAM	JON SIBAL & MARK BUCKINGHAM	AVALON'S IAN HANNIN & D'ISRAELI	VC's CORY PETIT
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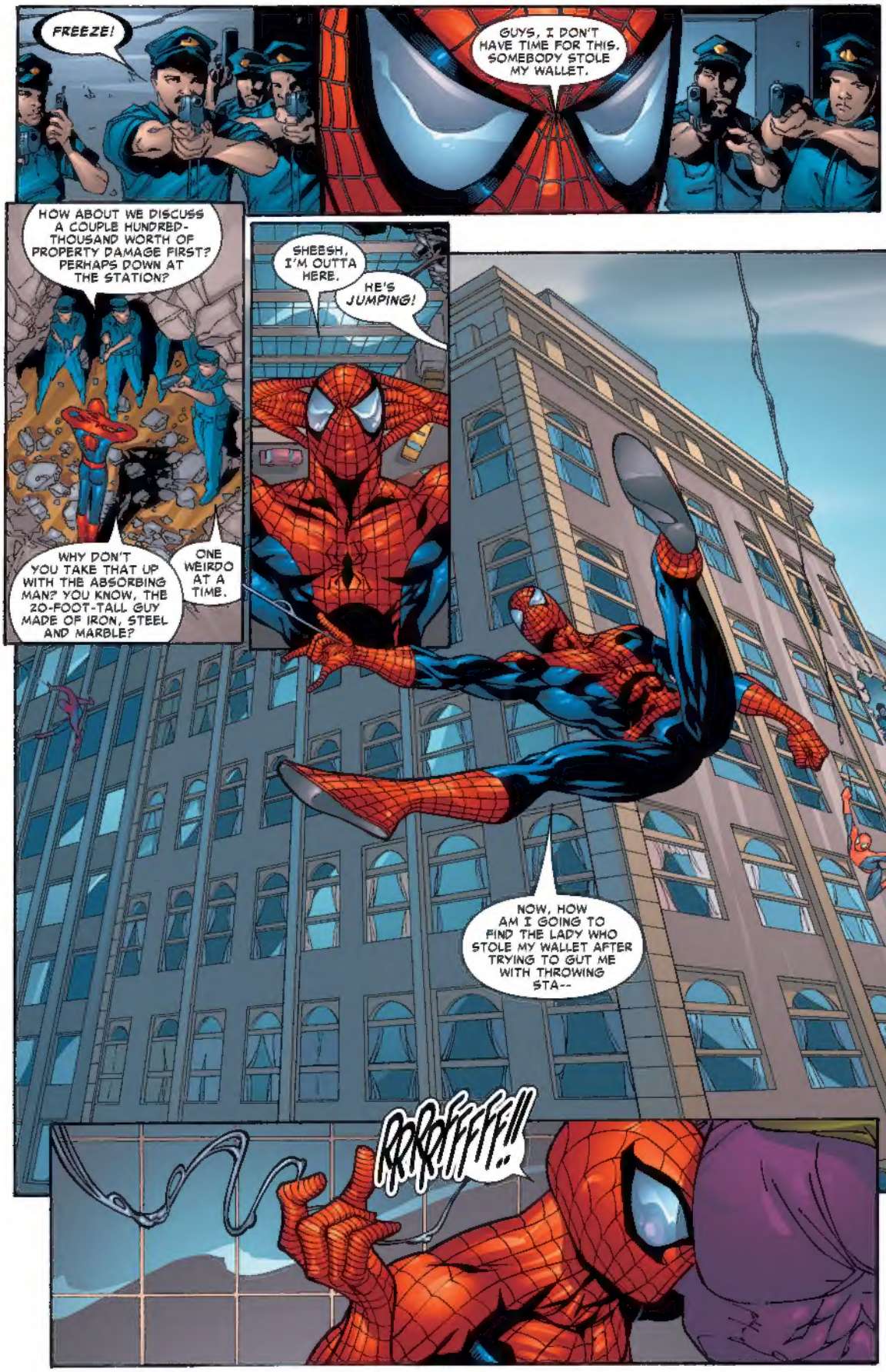
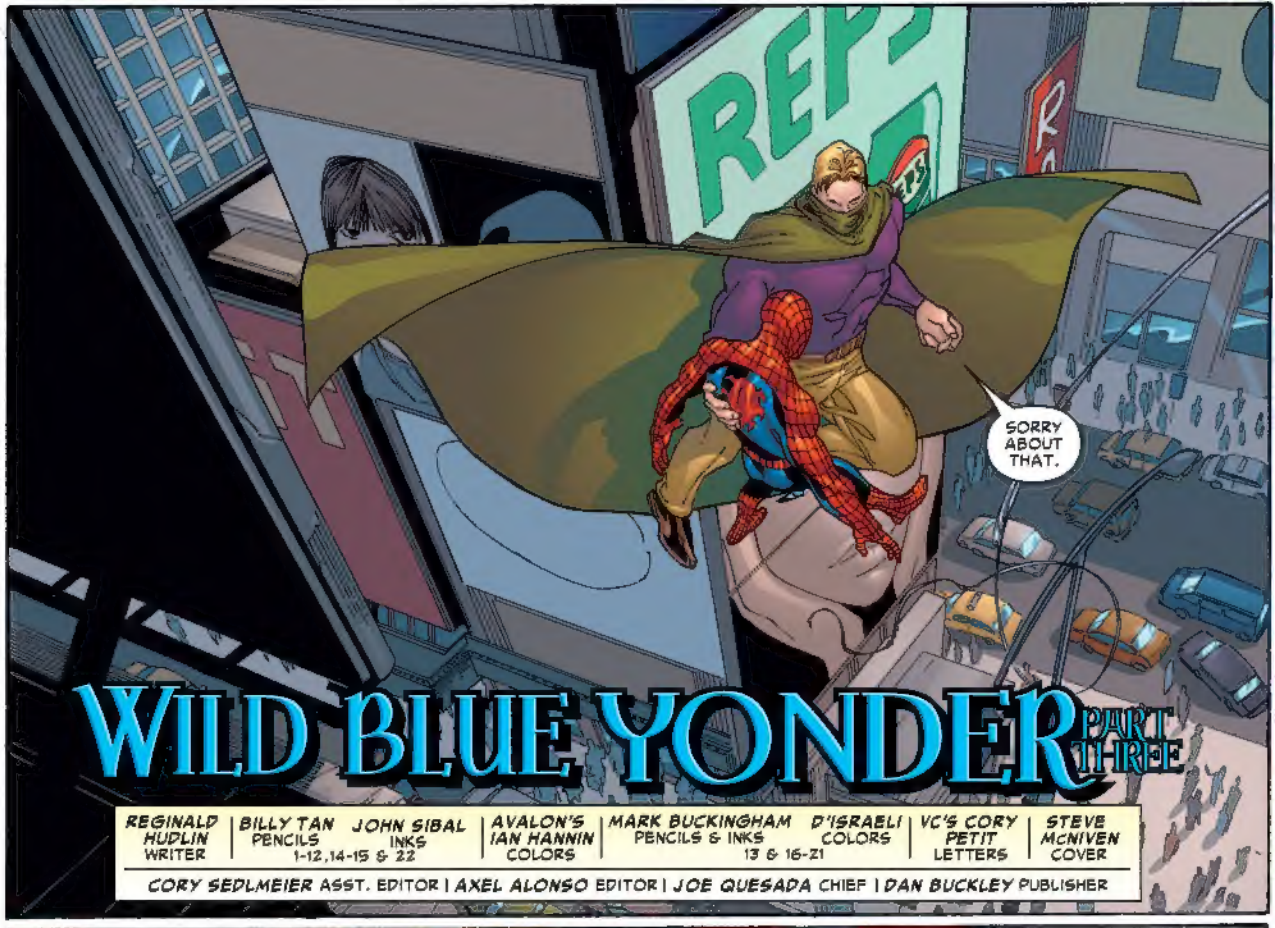

FREEZE!
GUYS, I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS. SOMEBODY STOLE MY WALLET.
HOW ABOUT WE DISCUSS A COUPLE HUNDRED-THOUSAND WORTH OF PROPERTY DAMAGE FIRST? PERHAPS DOWN AT THE STATION?
SHEESH, I'M OUTTA HERE.
HE'S JUMPING!
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THAT UP WITH THE ABSORBING MAN? YOU KNOW, THE 20-FOOT-TALL GUY MADE OF IRON, STEEL AND MARBLE?
ONE WEIRDO AT A TIME.
NOW, HOW AM I GOING TO FIND THE LADY WHO STOLE MY WALLET AFTER TRYING TO GUT ME WITH THROWING STA--
RRRRFFF!!



WILD BLUE YONDER PART THREE

REGINALD HUDLIN WRITER | BILLY TAN PENCILS JOHN SIBAL INKS 1-12,14-15 & 22 | AVALON'S IAN HANNIN COLORS | MARK BUCKINGHAM PENCILS & INKS D'ISRAELI COLORS 13 & 16-21 | VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERS | STEVE MCNIVEN COVER

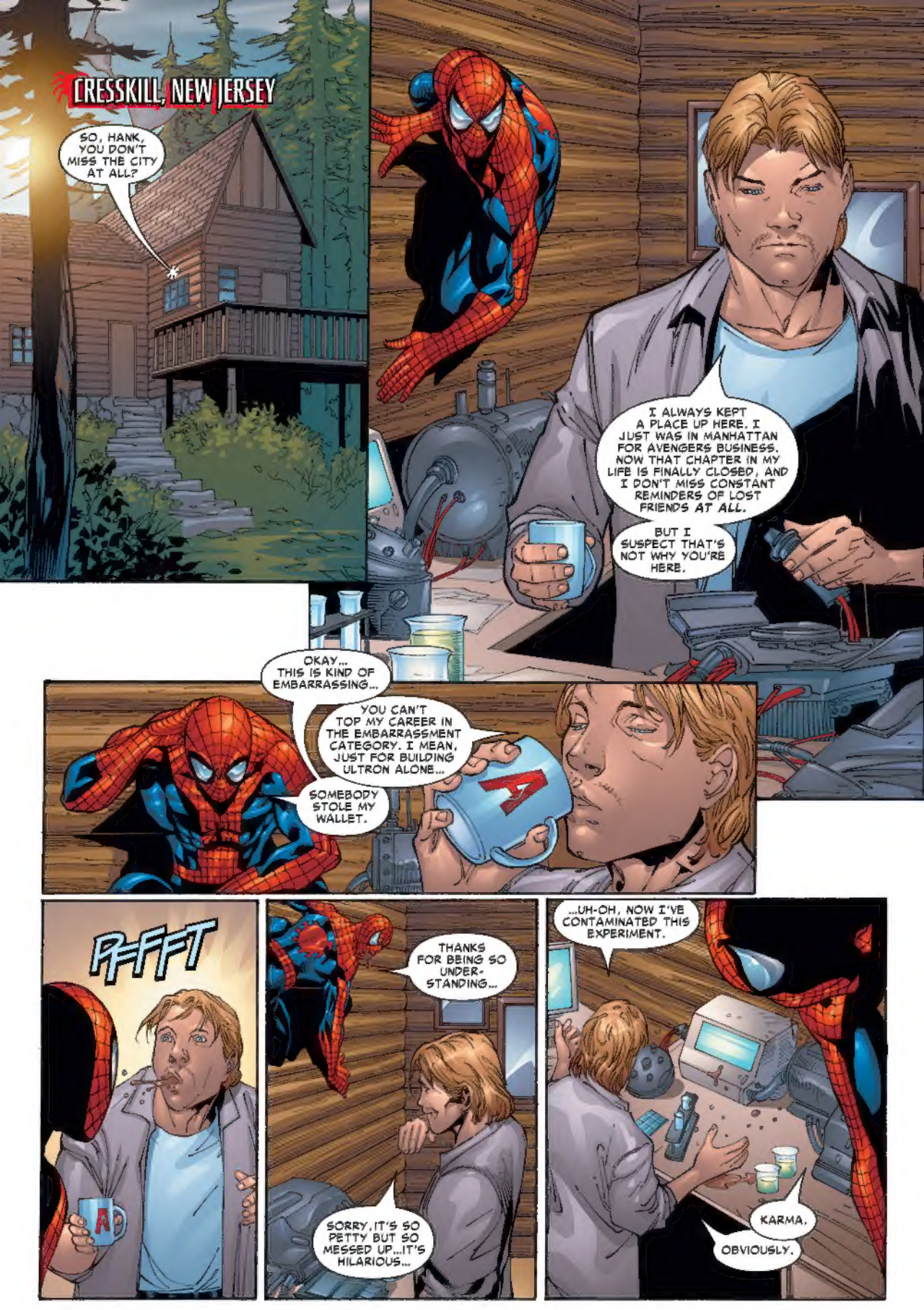
CORY SEDLMEIER ASST. EDITOR | AXEL ALONSO EDITOR | JOE QUESADA CHIEF | DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER

WITH ALL THESE CHARACTERS FLYING AROUND, THAT MUST HAPPEN TO YOU ALL THE TIME, HUH?
WELL ACTUALLY, NO.
DIDJA SEE WHERE THAT WOMAN RAN OFF TO? THE ONE WITH THE GUY YOU PUNCHED TO JERSEY.

JEEZ. I'M WEARING A MASK AND I'M *STILL* EMBARRASSED.
DON'T WORRY. WE'LL FIND HER IN NO TIME.
WHOA, BIG FELLA! I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING THIS FAST, NOT TO MENTION I'M GETTING BUGS ON MY VISORS.
DON'T WORRY. EVEN AT THIS SPEED I CAN SEE THROUGH MOST ANYTHING.
OH YEAH? DOES THAT MEAN YOU CAN SEE THROUGH MY MASK? DO YOU KNOW WHO I REALLY *AM*?
ER... UH, I MEAN... I WOULD NEVER TELL ANYONE PETER!
I KNEW IT! I CAN'T BELIEVE TWO PEOPLE FIND OUT MY SECRET IDENTITY IN ONE DAY!
UH, YOU'RE KIND OF ADDING TO THE WIND RESISTANCE WHEN YOU STAND...
LAND ON ONE OF THESE ROOFTOPS *RIGHT NOW*, ETHAN.

NOW WHY DID YOU CALL ME ETH--
CUT IT OUT, ETHAN. YOU KNOW WHO I AM, AND YOU HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO GAME WHEN IT COMES TO KEEPING A SECRET.
YOU COULD HAVE AT LEAST PRETENDED YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHO I WAS.
BUT THAT WOULD BE LYING.
LOOK, JUDGING BY YOUR OUTFIT, YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY NEW AT THIS, BUT YOU CAN'T GO AROUND WITH THE KIND OF POWER YOU HAVE--AND I'M REFERRING TO INFORMATION, IN THIS CASE--AND BE SO GULLIBLE. THIS IS NEW YORK!
DON'T REMIND ME. I HATE IT HERE. THE NOISE, THE SMELLS. CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT IT'S LIKE WHEN YOU CAN HEAR AND TASTE EVERYTHING FOR MILES?
YEESH! AND I THOUGHT RIDING THE SUBWAY WAS NASTY!
LOOK, SINCE YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT ME, WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF?
IT'S KIND OF A LONG STORY. SHOULDN'T WE FIND THE BAD GUYS FIRST?
MY WALLET--ALMOST FORGOT!
SEE YA, ETHAN. GOTTA SEE A MAN ABOUT A DOG.
PUT YOUR CLOTHES BACK ON AND KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT TILL I GET BACK TO THE OFFICE, OKAY?
DO YOU WANT A LIFT?
NO!

HMMM. THIS IS A SETBACK. IF HIS NEW YORK APARTMENT AND HIS NEXT OF KIN'S HOME IN QUEENS ARE BOTH DESTROYED... SOMEONE MUST HAVE FIGURED OUT WHO HE IS BEFORE THIS. HE'S PROBABLY DEEP UNDERCOVER NOW.
C'MON, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE YOU GET ID'D.
WHAT? LIKE I'M SCARED OF THE COPS?
'COURSE NOT. I JUST DON'T WANT THAT FLYING GUY TO COME BACK AROUND AND KNOCK YOU TO PENNSYLVANIA.
HEY, HE GOT LUCKY WITH THAT ONE!
NO, YOU WERE LUCKY THERE WAS A CRACK HOUSE NEARBY FOR YOU TO CRAWL INTO AND SNIFF YOUR WOUNDS.
I COULD GRIND YOUR BONES TO--
BUT YOU WON'T. YOU NEED DRUGS, AND WITHOUT ME ORGANIZING THINGS YOU'LL GO BACK TO BEING A DRUGSTORE COWBOY KNOCKING OVER PHARMACIES TO FEED YOUR HABIT, INSTEAD OF BEING RICH ENOUGH TO BUY YOUR OWN PRIVATE ISLAND.
YOU COULD BE YOUR OWN PRIVATE ISLAND.
YOU THINK YOU'RE SO DAMN SMART.
SHUT UP AND GET IN THE CAR.

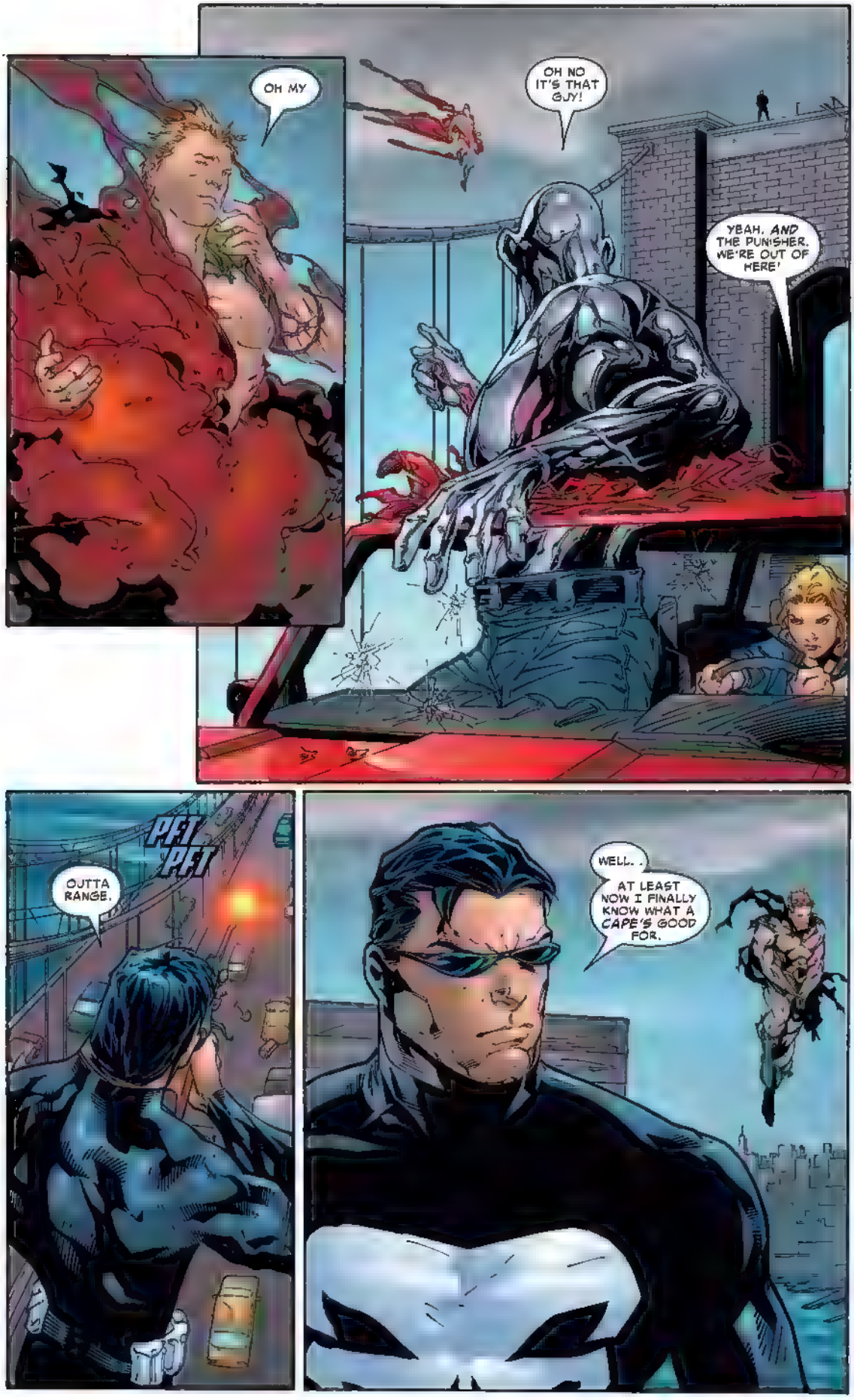

CRESSKILL, NEW JERSEY
SO, HANK, YOU DON'T MISS THE CITY AT ALL?
I ALWAYS KEPT A PLACE UP HERE. I JUST WAS IN MANHATTAN FOR AVENGERS BUSINESS. NOW THAT CHAPTER IN MY LIFE IS FINALLY CLOSED, AND I DON'T MISS CONSTANT REMINDERS OF LOST FRIENDS AT ALL.
BUT I SUSPECT THAT'S NOT WHY YOU'RE HERE.
OKAY... THIS IS KIND OF EMBARRASSING...
YOU CAN'T TOP MY CAREER IN THE EMBARRASSMENT CATEGORY. I MEAN, JUST FOR BUILDING ULTRON ALONE...
SOMEBODY STOLE MY WALLET.
PFFFT
THANKS FOR BEING SO UNDER-STANDING...
SORRY, IT'S SO PETTY BUT SO MESSED UP...IT'S HILARIOUS...
...UH-OH, NOW I'VE CONTAMINATED THIS EXPERIMENT.
KARMA, OBVIOUSLY.

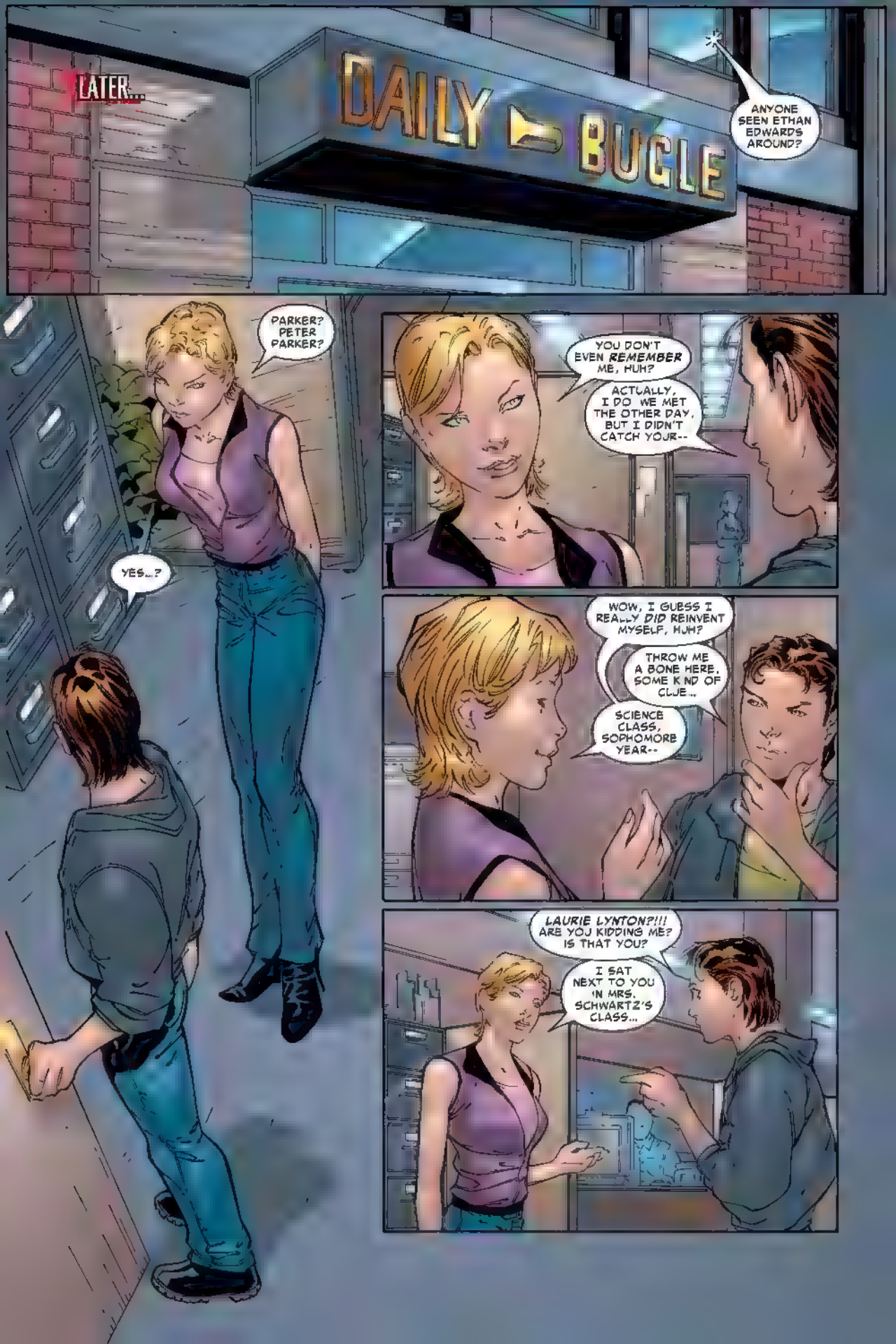
OKAY. I'VE GOT NO INTEREST IN JUMPING INTO MY TIGHTS AGAIN. BUT I COULD ORDER ANTS OVER A SPECIFIC AREA TO SEARCH FOR SOMETHING. IF YOU KNOW WHERE IT MIGHT BE AND WHAT THEY ARE LOOKING FOR...
I MEAN, BESIDES A WALLET, THAT'S KIND OF VAGUE FOR ANYONE, ESPECIALLY AN ANT.
I BUILT THESE SPIDER-TRACERS YEARS AGO. I DON'T USE 'EM SO MUCH, BUT I LEFT ONE IN MY WALLET. MAYBE THEY CAN LOCK ONTO THAT?
WHAT KIND OF SIGNAL DOES IT SEND OUT?
"FEEL" IT WITH MY SPIDER-SENSE WITHIN A 100-YARD PROXIMITY.
I WAS A KID. I'M SURE IT COULD BE BETTER DESIGNED--
YOU BUILT THIS?
YOU BUILT AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE THAT INTERFACES WITH YOUR ARACHNID POWERS? DID YOU KNOW HOW MANY YEARS IT TOOK ME TO BUILD THAT CAPACITY INTO MY HELMET?
I DON'T KNOW WHICH IS WORSE-- THAT SOME KID IS THAT MUCH SMARTER THAN ME, OR THAT HE'S WASTING HIS TALENT ON PUNCHING THUGS.
NOT TO SPOIL THE PITY PARTY, BUT...CAN YOU HELP ME?
OH, RIGHT. NO PROBLEM. I'LL RECALIBRATE MY HELMET AND HAVE EVERY ANT IN MANHATTAN LOOKING FOR YOUR SIGNAL. THEN I'LL GIVE YOU A CALL.
THANKS.
YOU CAN USE THE DOOR, YOU KNOW.
I KNOW YOU GOT TO RUN NOW, BUT REMEMBER: YOU HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO USE ALL OF YOUR GIFTS, NOT JUST YOUR ABILITY TO KICK BUTT.
IF I MAKE IT TO 40, I'LL BUY THE HOUSE NEXT TO YOURS... DEAL?

YOU'RE BEHIND SCHEDULE. I EXPECTED YOU TO BE DONE BY NOW.
WE GOT DETOURED. WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO MURDOCK'S NOW.
WHO IS THAT? THE OWL? TELL HIM MY RATE DOUBLES IF I GOTTA GO TO OUTER BOROUGHS.
DON'T "SHUSH" ME! YOU'RE NOT MY MOTHER!
CRACK
AGHK! WHAT THE--?
A SNIPER!
SHE'S GOOD...

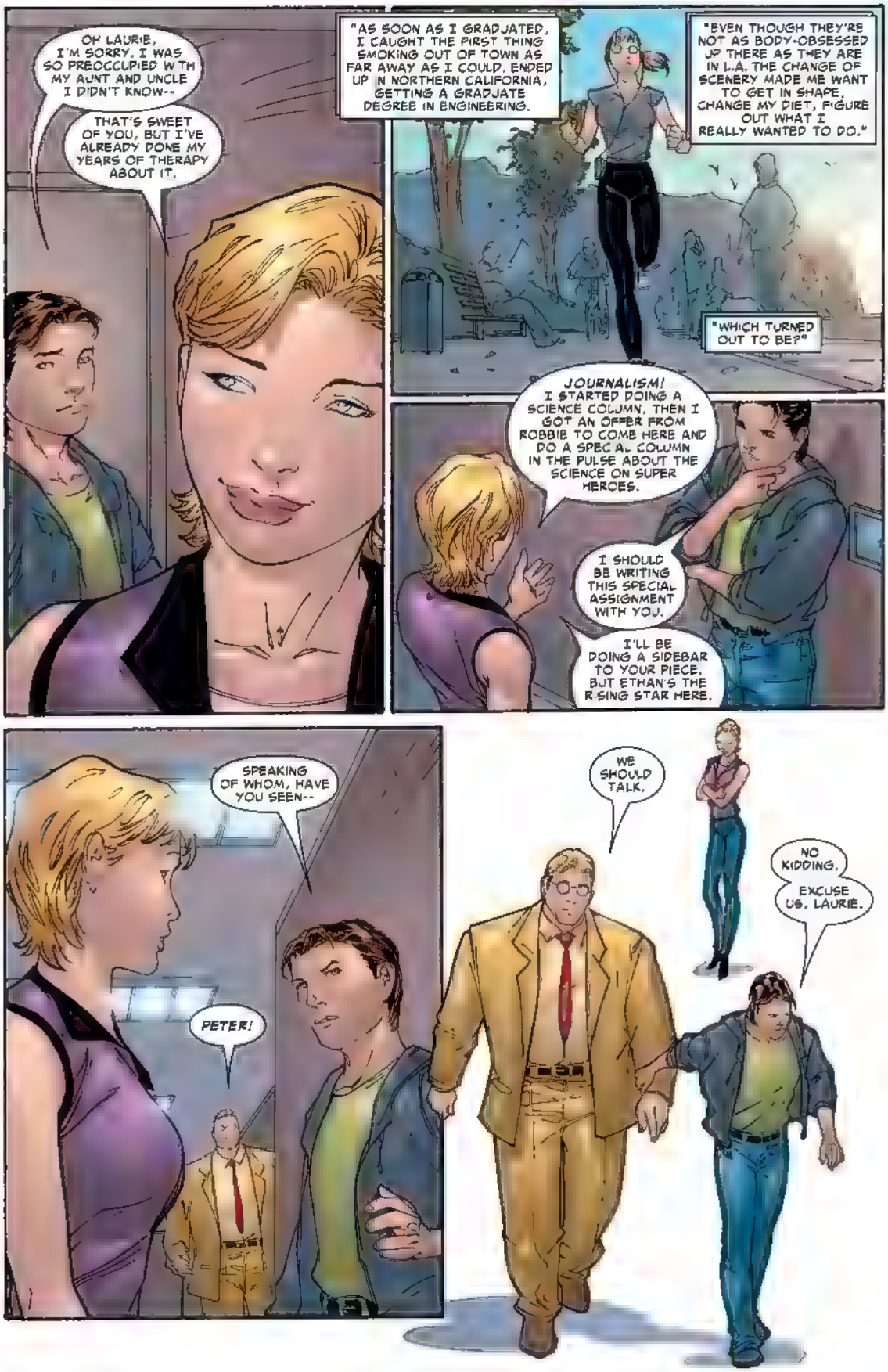
WHAT IS WRONG WIT' YOU?
DON'T BLACK OUT ON ME, YOU IDIOT.
SH-SHOT.... HURTS!
IT WAS PROBABLY A DUM-DUM BULLET YOU'RE PROBABLY FULL OF METAL FRAGMENTS JUST REACH OUT ...AND TURN INTO THEM.
DO YOU HEAR ME, CREEL? TURN INTO THE BULLET!
GOOD CALL, YA HARPY.
I WAS HOPING TO AVOID HEAVY ORDNANCE...

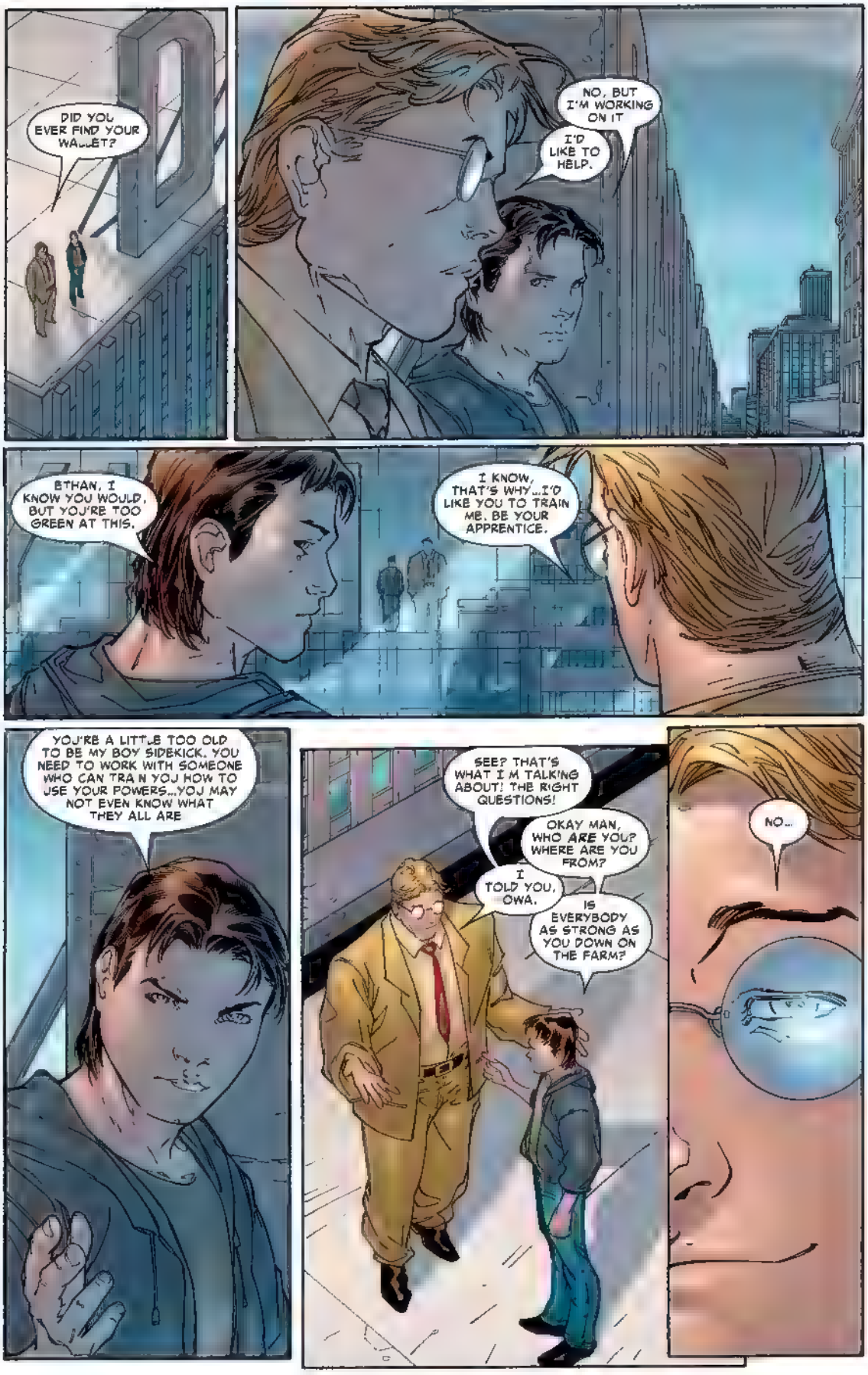
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! THERE ARE INNOCENT BYSTANDERS BELOW
YA GOTTA BE KIDDING ME.
MUST GET TH S TO--
WHUMP

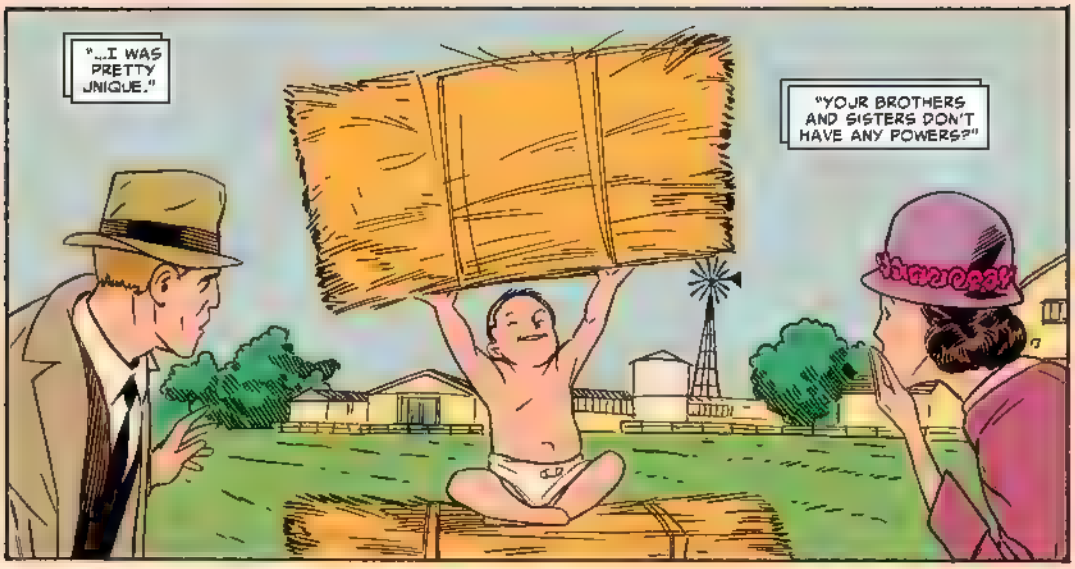

OH MY
OH NO IT'S THAT GUY!
YEAH. AND THE PUNISHER. WE'RE OUT OF HERE!
PFT PFT
OUTTA RANGE.
WELL. . .
AT LEAST NOW I FINALLY KNOW WHAT A CAPE'S GOOD FOR.


LATER...
DAILY BUGLE
ANYONE SEEN ETHAN EDWARDS AROUND?
PARKER? PETER PARKER?
YES...?
YOU DON'T EVEN REMEMBER ME, HUH?
ACTUALLY, I DO WE MET THE OTHER DAY, BUT I DIDN'T CATCH YOUR--
WOW, I GUESS I REALLY DID REINVENT MYSELF, HUH?
THROW ME A BONE HERE. SOME KIND OF CLUE...
SCIENCE CLASS, SOPHOMORE YEAR--
LAURIE LYNTON?!!! ARE YOU KIDDING ME? IS THAT YOU?
I SAT NEXT TO YOU IN MRS. SCHWARTZ'S CLASS...

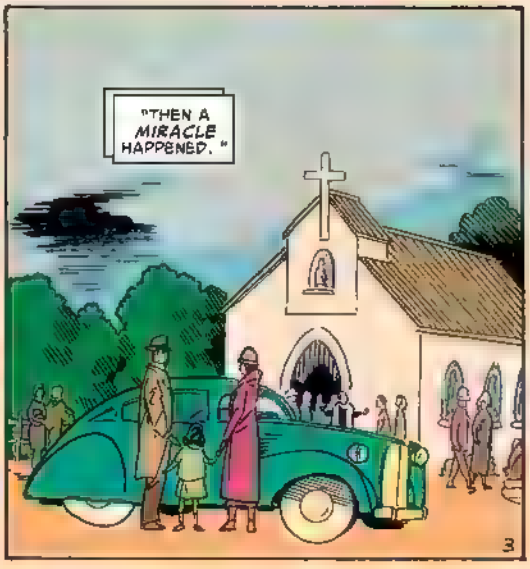
"...NOT THAT YOU WOULD REMEMBER."
"OF COURSE I REMEMBER YOU. YOU ALMOST BEAT ME IN THE SCIENCE FAIR."
"I WISH. REMEMBER WHEN FLASH THOMPSON SAW THE TWO US STANDING SIDE BY SIDE?"
SCIENCE FAIR
"THAT'S THE ONLY TIME TWO NERDS TOGETHER MADE A 10!"
FLASH
"TELL ME ABOUT IT. OH MAN, THAT DAY HURT. I WAS A LOSER IN THE REAL WORLD AND THE NERD OLYMPICS I MUST HAVE WOLFED DOWN A HALF DOZEN CANDY BARS BEFORE BEDTIME."


OH LAURIE, I'M SORRY. I WAS SO PREOCCUPIED W TH MY AUNT AND UNCLE I DIDN'T KNOW--
THAT'S SWEET OF YOU, BUT I'VE ALREADY DONE MY YEARS OF THERAPY ABOUT IT.
"AS SOON AS I GRADUATED, I CAUGHT THE FIRST THING SMOKING OUT OF TOWN AS FAR AWAY AS I COULD. ENDED UP N NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, GETTING A GRADUATE DEGREE IN ENGINEERING.
"EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE NOT AS BODY-OBSESSED UP THERE AS THEY ARE IN L.A. THE CHANGE OF SCENERY MADE ME WANT TO GET IN SHAPE, CHANGE MY DIET, FIGURE OUT WHAT I REALLY WANTED TO DO."
"WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE?"
JOURNALISM! I STARTED DOING A SCIENCE COLUMN, THEN I GOT AN OFFER FROM ROBBIE TO COME HERE AND DO A SPEC AL COLUMN IN THE PULSE ABOUT THE SCIENCE ON SUPER HEROES.
I SHOULD BE WRITING THIS SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT WITH YOU.
I'LL BE DOING A SIDEBAR TO YOUR PIECE. BUT ETHAN'S THE R SING STAR HERE.
SPEAKING OF WHOM, HAVE YOU SEEN--
PETER!
WE SHOULD TALK.
NO KIDDING.
EXCUSE US, LAURIE.

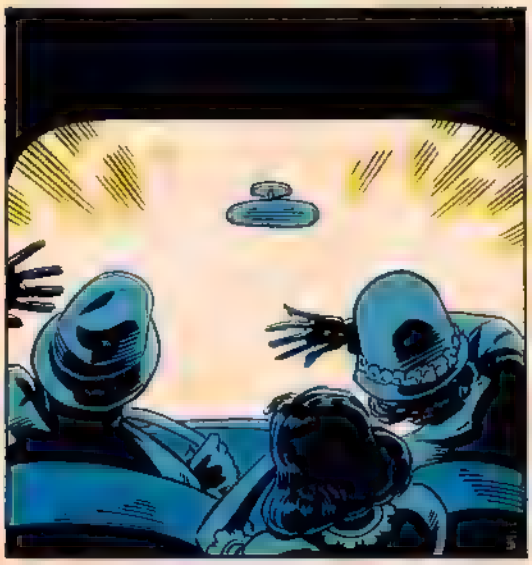

DID YOU EVER FIND YOUR WALLET?
NO, BUT I'M WORKING ON IT
I'D LIKE TO HELP.
ETHAN, I KNOW YOU WOULD, BUT YOU'RE TOO GREEN AT THIS.
I KNOW, THAT'S WHY...I'D LIKE YOU TO TRAIN ME. BE YOUR APPRENTICE.
YOU'RE A LITTLE TOO OLD TO BE MY BOY SIDEKICK. YOU NEED TO WORK WITH SOMEONE WHO CAN TRAIN YOU HOW TO USE YOUR POWERS...YOU MAY NOT EVEN KNOW WHAT THEY ALL ARE
SEE? THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT! THE RIGHT QUESTIONS!
OKAY MAN, WHO *ARE* YOU? WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
I TOLD YOU, OWA.
IS EVERYBODY AS STRONG AS YOU DOWN ON THE FARM?
NO...


"...I WAS PRETTY UNIQUE."
"YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS DON'T HAVE ANY POWERS?"
"NOPE!"

"MY SISTER IS...KIND OF SLOW. DAD SAID IT WAS BECAUSE MOM HAD RELATIONS BEFORE SHE WAS MARRIED, SO GOD PUNISHED HER BY MAKING HER BARREN.
"BUT MOM SAID IT WAS DAD'S FAULT. SHE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY HE'D DON'T GO BLIND AS A YOUNG MAN.
"LORD"
2


"THEN A MIRACLE HAPPENED."
3

"UH-HUH!"
4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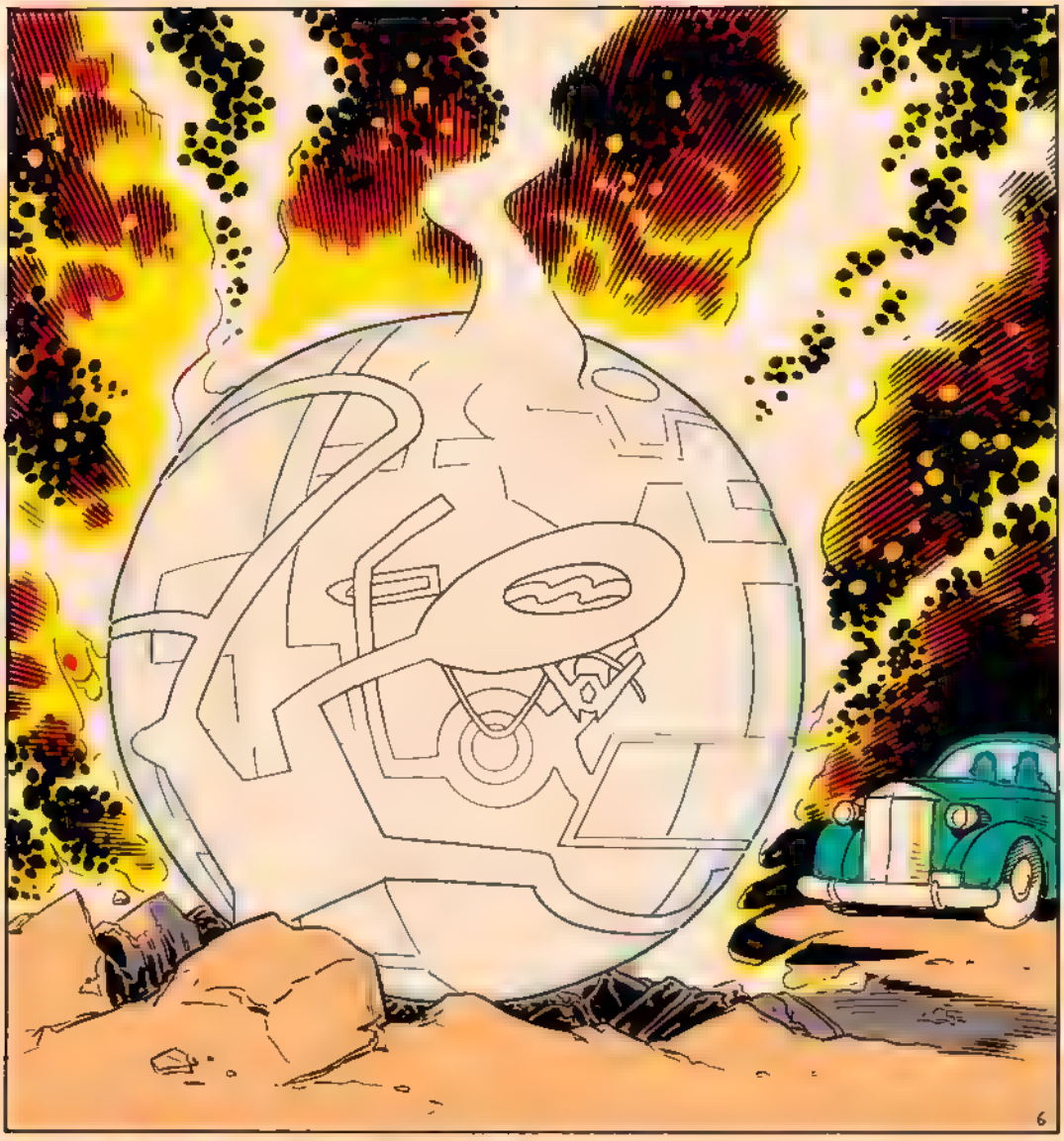
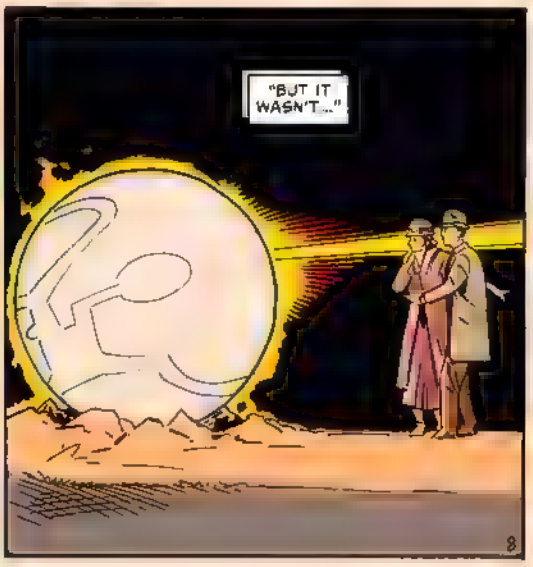
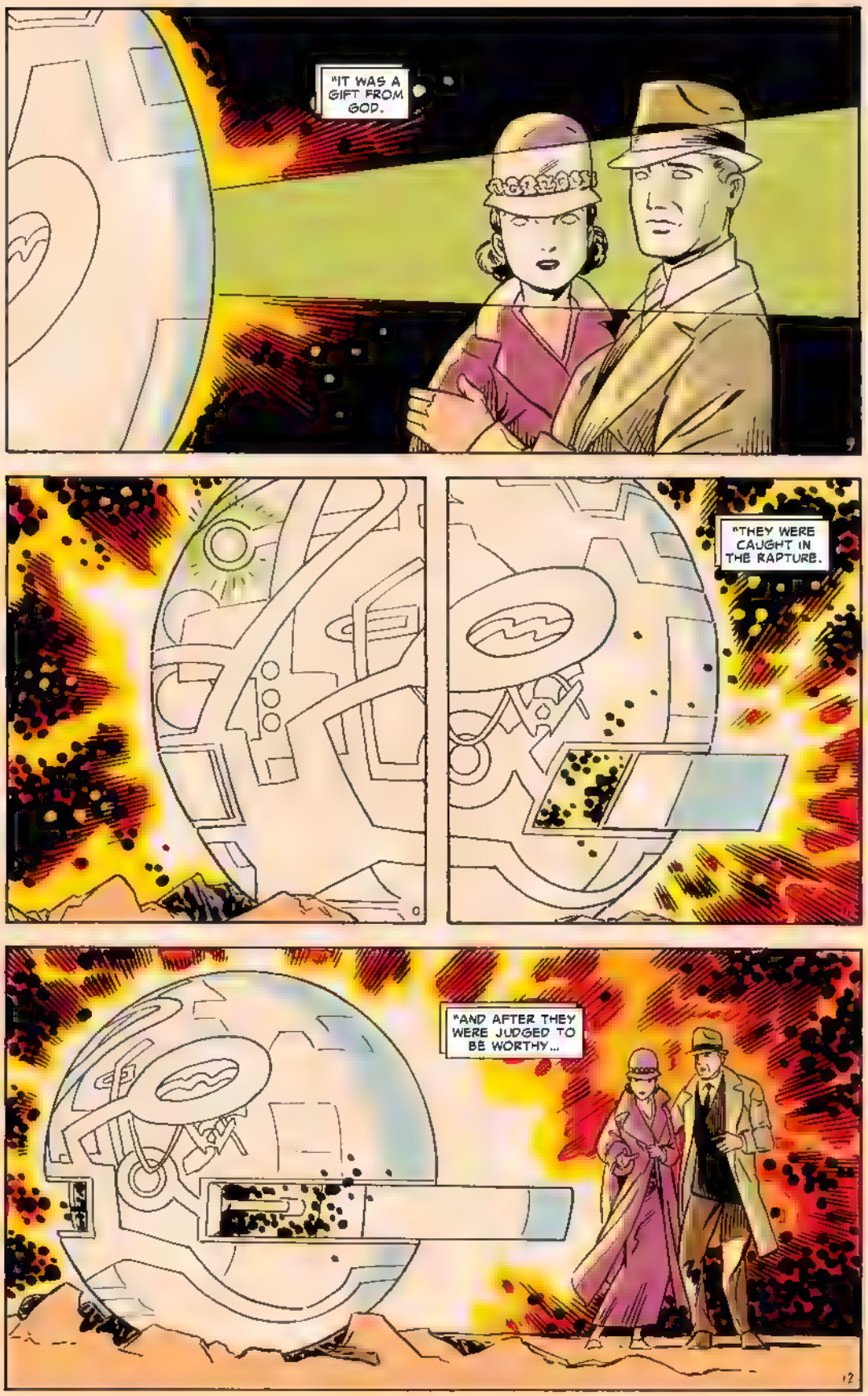


"AT FIRST THEY THOUGHT IT WAS THE FINAL DAYS.


"BUT IT WASN'T..."


"IT WAS A GIFT FROM GOD.
"THEY WERE CAUGHT IN THE RAPTURE.
"AND AFTER THEY WERE JUDGED TO BE WORTHY...

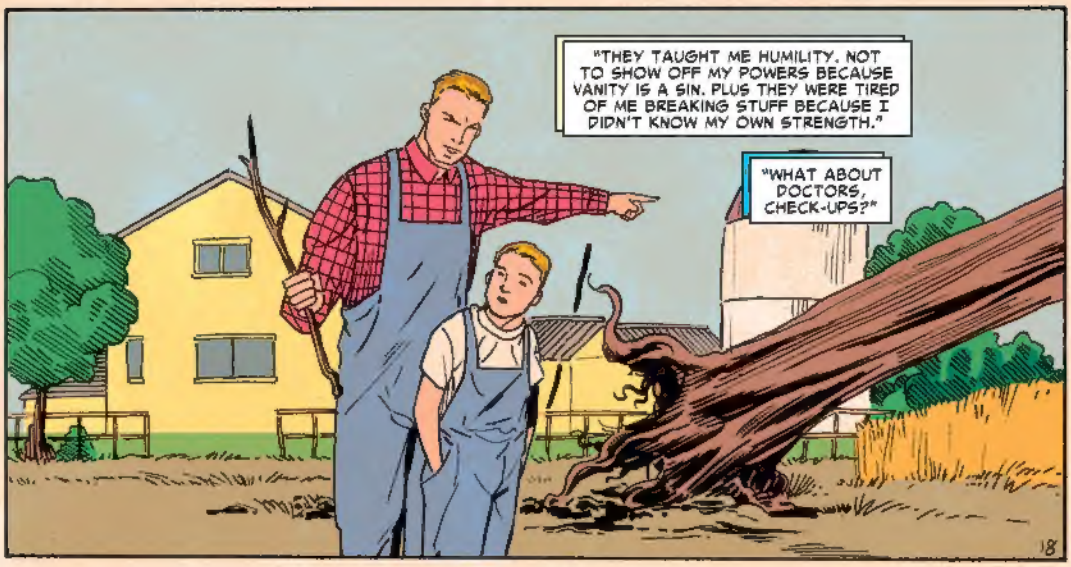
"...A CHILD WAS DELIVERED TO THEM."

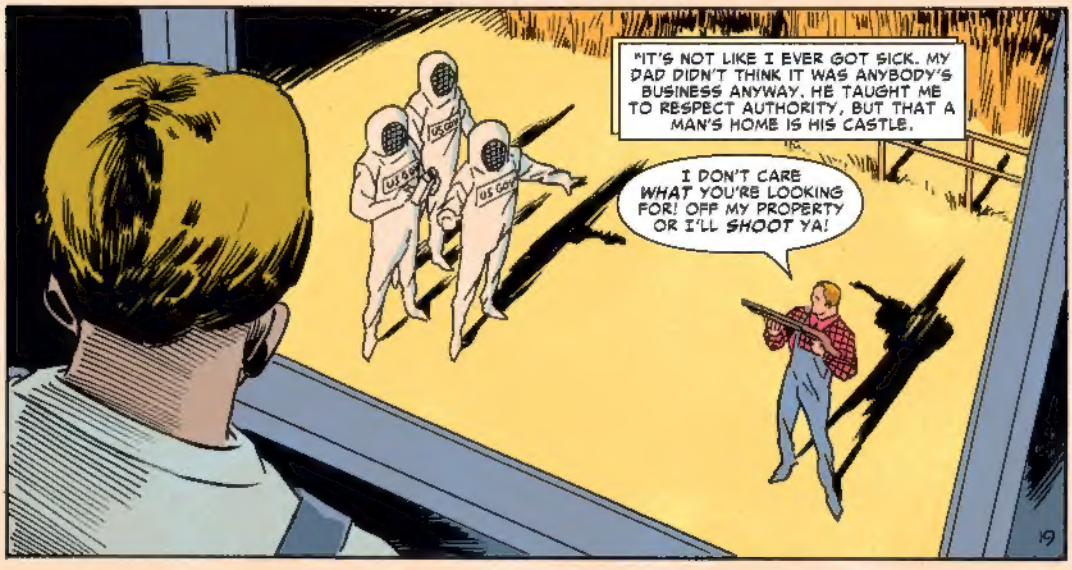
"VERY BIBLICAL STORY, ETHAN. IS THAT HOW IT REALLY HAPPENED?"
14

"THEY WOULDN'T LIE, PETER. IT'S A SIN. BESIDES, WHY WOULD THEY?
15

"THEY WANTED NOTHING BUT THE BEST FOR ME. A STRONG MORAL BACKGROUND TO MAKE SURE I ALWAYS DID THE RIGHT THING WITH MY SPECIAL GIFTS.
16

"THEY TAUGHT ME THE VALUE OF HARD WORK."
17


"THEY TAUGHT ME HUMILITY. NOT TO SHOW OFF MY POWERS BECAUSE VANITY IS A SIN. PLUS THEY WERE TIRED OF ME BREAKING STUFF BECAUSE I DIDN'T KNOW MY OWN STRENGTH."
"WHAT ABOUT DOCTORS, CHECK-UPS?"
18


"IT'S NOT LIKE I EVER GOT SICK. MY DAD DIDN'T THINK IT WAS ANYBODY'S BUSINESS ANYWAY. HE TAUGHT ME TO RESPECT AUTHORITY, BUT THAT A MAN'S HOME IS HIS CASTLE.
I DON'T CARE *WHAT* YOU'RE LOOKING FOR! OFF MY PROPERTY OR I'LL *SHOOT* YA!
19

"FINALLY, I TOLD THEM I WANTED TO LEAVE THE FARM. I DIDN'T MIND MY CHORES, BUT I JUST FELT LIKE I HAD A HIGHER CALLING. THAT I HAD TO SEE MORE THAN THE COUNTRY FAIR AND THE STATE CAPITOL BUILDING ON A FIELD TRIP.
20

"WHEN IT WAS TIME FOR ME TO LEAVE THE FARM AND GO TO THE CITY, MY DAD GAVE ME A PIECE OF ADVICE I WOULD NEVER FORGET."
WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME, GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.
21

I WANT TO DO THE RIGHT THING, BUT I KNOW I NEED *TRAINING*. WILL YOU HELP ME? WILL YOU BE MY GUIDE, MY MENTOR?
SHEESH... YOU'RE NOT LEAVING ME WITH A LOT OF *CHOICE*, ARE YOU?
IS THAT A "YES"? *AL-RIGHT!*
OKAY, LESSON ONE: BRING IT DOWN, WOULD YA?
AT LEAST *ATTEMPT* TO BE COOL...
TO BE CONTINUED